

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A chemically modified ~~double stranded short interfering RNA (siRNA)~~ nucleic acid molecule, ~~comprising a sense strand and an antisense strand,~~ wherein:

(a) the nucleic acid molecule comprises a sense strand and a separate antisense strand, each strand having one or more pyrimidine nucleotides and one or more purine nucleotides;

[[a.]] (b) each strand of said siRNA molecule is independently about 18 to about 27 nucleotides in length;

[[b.]] (c) an 18 to 27 nucleotide sequence of the antisense strand of said siRNA the nucleic acid molecule comprises about 18 to about 27 nucleotides that are is complementary to a human huntingtin (HD) RNA sequence corresponding to comprising SEQ ID NO: 3582;

~~e. the antisense strand is complementary to the sense strand;~~

[[d.]] (d) an 18 to 27 nucleotide sequence of the sense strand of the siRNA nucleic acid molecule is complementary to the antisense strand and comprises a portion of the an 18 to 27 HD-RNA nucleotide sequence of about 18 to about 27 nucleotides of the human HD RNA sequence; and

[[e.]] (e) between about 50 percent and about to 100 percent of the nucleotides positions in one or both strands of the siRNA molecule in the sense strand and about 50 to 100 percent of the nucleotides in the antisense strand are chemically modified and any purine nucleotides present in the antisense strand are 2'-O-methyl purine nucleotides with modifications independently selected from the group consisting of 2'-O-methyl, 2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro, 2'-deoxy, phosphorothioate and deoxyabasic modifications; and

(f) one or more of the purine nucleotides present in one or both strands of the nucleic acid molecule are 2'-O-methyl purine nucleotides and one or more of the

pyrimidine nucleotides present in one or both strands of the nucleic acid molecule are 2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro pyrimidine nucleotides.

2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
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6. (Canceled)
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Canceled)
11. (Canceled)
12. (Canceled)
13. (Currently Amended) The ~~siRNA~~ nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, or more of the pyrimidine nucleotides present in the sense strand are 2'-O-methyl pyrimidine nucleotides.
14. (Currently Amended) The ~~siRNA~~ nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, or more of the purine nucleotides in the sense strand are 2'-deoxy purine nucleotides.
15. (Currently Amended) The ~~siRNA~~ nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, or more of the pyrimidine nucleotides present in the sense strand are 2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro pyrimidine nucleotides.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~siRNA~~ nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the sense strand includes a terminal cap moiety at ~~the~~ a 5'-end, ~~the~~ a 3'-end, or both of the 5' and 3' ends of the sense strand.
17. (Currently Amended) The ~~siRNA~~ nucleic acid molecule of claim 16, wherein said terminal cap moiety is an inverted deoxy abasic moiety.
18. (Currently Amended) The ~~siRNA~~ nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, or more of the pyrimidine nucleotides of said antisense strand are 2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro pyrimidine nucleotides.
19. (Canceled)
20. (Currently Amended) The ~~siRNA~~ nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, or more of the purine nucleotides present in said antisense strand ~~comprise~~ are 2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro purine nucleotides.
21. (Currently Amended) The ~~siRNA~~ nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said antisense strand includes ~~comprises~~ a terminal phosphorothioate internucleotide linkage at the 3' end of said antisense strand.
22. (Canceled)
23. (Canceled)
24. (Canceled)
25. (Canceled)
26. (Canceled)
27. (Canceled)
28. (Canceled)
29. ((Canceled)
30. (Canceled)
31. (Canceled)

32. (New) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid molecule comprises one or more ribonucleotides.
33. (New) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, or more of the purine nucleotides present in the antisense strand and O-methyl purine nucleotides.
34. (New) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the 5'-end of the antisense strand includes a terminal phosphate group.
35. (New) A composition comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 in pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
36. (New) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein 1, 2, or 3 of the purine nucleotides present in the sense strand are 2'-O-methyl purine nucleotides.
37. (New) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the antisense strand, sense strand, or both the antisense strand and sense strand include a 3'-overhang of 1-3 nucleotides.
38. (New) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 37, wherein the nucleotides of the 3'-overhang are chemically modified to comprise one or more phosphorothioate internucleotide linkages, 2'-O-methyl ribonucleotides, 2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro ribonucleotides, 2'-deoxy ribonucleotides, universal base nucleotides, 5-C-methyl nucleotides, inverted deoxyabasic moieties or a combination thereof.